

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 GAC-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ INS: DKUX: NM

4/11/73, EXT 21289

APPROVED BY NEA: JSISCO

: NAVELIOTES

NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER

NEA/ PAB- BLAINGEN

S/ S - MR. BARNES

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R 122233 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY DACCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068625

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, PFOR, IN

SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL OF L. K. JHA ON DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. INDIAN AMBASSADOR L. K. JHA PAID FAREWELL CALL ON
DEPSEC RUSH APRIL 11. AFTER PLEASANTRIES, DISCUSSION
TURNED TO UPCOMING TALKS IN DELHI. DEPSEC SAID WE LOOKED
FORWARD TO GOOD AND GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. WE THOUGHT
THIS COULD HELP REMOVE PAST MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND ASSIST
IN PUTTING INDO- US RELATIONS ON STEADIER PLANE.

2. AMBASSADOR JHA SAID THIS WAS ALSO VIEW OF GOI WHICH
LOOKED TO GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON TOPICS OF INTEREST RATHER
THAN FOLLOWING FIXED AGENDA. HE THOUGHT DELHI WOULD BE
PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM SENIOR US OFFICIALS
WITH REGARD TO OUR RECENT ARMS POLICY DECISION AND OUR
FUTURE INTENTIONS.

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3. DEPSEC SAID OUR BIGGEST CONCERN IN SOUTH ASIA WAS OUR DESIRE FOR GREATER STABILITY THROUGH RESOLUTION OF SOME OF PROBLEMS LEFT OVER FROM 1971 WAR, ESPECIALLY QUESTIONS SUCH AS PAK POW' S. JHA COMMENTED THAT INDIA BADLY WANTED TO LET PRISONERS GO. INDIA GAINED NOTHING FROM THEIR CONTINUED RETENTION AND IN FACT SUFFERED INTERNATIONALLY. RECENT SIGNS, JHA CONTINUED, WERE ENCOURAGING. PRIME MINISTER' S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE HAKSAR HAD A GOOD VISIT IN DACCA. BHUTTO' S RECENT STATEMENTS INDICATED THAT

FORWARD MOVEMENT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

4. DEPSEC AGREED, ADDING THAT IT OUR IMPRESSION BOTH PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH BEGINNING TO ADOPT MORE PRAGMATIC ATTITUDE TOWARD SITUATION. DEPSEC COMMENTED THAT RECENT SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF PAK CONSTITUTIONAL DELIBERATIONS WAS EVIDENCE OF GREATER STABILITY AND VERY HOPEFUL SIGN. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE068625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKUX: NM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730440/aaaagsh.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NE
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <08-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971229
Subject: FAREWELL CALL OF L. K. JHA ON DEPUTY
TAGS: OCON, PFOR, IN, OCON
To: DACCA
ISLAMABAD
NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005